

REMARKS

Claims 7-9, 13, 14, 16, and 17 are indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1-6, 10-12, 15, 18, and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable Applicant's prior art figures 1 and 2 in view of Osada et al, U.S. patent application Pub. No. 2002/0117722 A1.

Claims have been amended to more clearly state the invention. Claims 1, 10, and 15 have been cancelled. Indicated allowable claims 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, and 17 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2-3, 11, and 18 have been amended to depend from respective indicated allowable claims 7, 13, and 16.

Applicants have reviewed all the art of record, and respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentable over all the art of record, including the references not relied upon by the Examiner for the rejection of the pending claims.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance and allowance of each of the pending claims 2-9, 11-14, and 16-19 is respectfully requested. Prompt and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner upon considering this amendment should find that a telephone interview would be helpful in expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Serial No. 10/045,755

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